

REMARKS

This Rule 116 amendment is filed to amend claims 24, 28 and 30 to incorporate suggestions made by the Examiner in the Final Rejection mailed August 4, 2003 (Paper No. 9). Because the suggestions are made pursuant to objections and could place the claims in better condition for appeal, appellants respectfully request entry.

With respect to the Title change suggestion made by the Examiner, applicants request this be held in abeyance until the Appeal terminates. The request is based on the fact that the Title is not germane to the issues on appeal and can be held in abeyance until the Appeal terminates.

Because the amendment to the claims are based upon objections and not rejection it is assumed the amendment will be entered and the amended claims are reproduced in the Appendix of the Appeal Brief.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joscelyn G. Cockburn".

Joscelyn G. Cockburn
Reg. No. 27,069
Attorney of Record

JGC:ko
Phone: 919-543-9036
FAX: 919-254-2649